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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,721	09/18/2003	Jong-Kook Lim	0001437/3062USU	4379

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EXAMINER

SNIDER, THERESA T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1744

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/664,721

Applicant(s)

LIM ET AL.

Examiner

Theresa T. Snider

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/14, 9/27/04, 1/24, 5/23/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The references cited on the information disclosure statement filed 9/27/2004 were not considered because they were considered on the information disclosure statement filed 6/14/2004. It is noted that 1314388 was incorrectly listed to be from the UK reference however it was actually from the EP.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "105" has been used to designate both handle pipe (page 8, line 7) and inlet pipe (page 8, line 7). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 44 (page 3, line 14) and 'inlet port 11' (page 1, line 17 is not shown in figure 3 as disclosed). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid

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abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: 55 (figure 4).

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Exemplary of such:

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Throughout the specification the prior art and invention is disclosed as a 'brush' however the figures and specification fail to disclose any bristles.

Throughout the specification the prior art and invention is discloses an 'inlet unit'. Does mean a nozzle?

Page 2, line 3, 'a' should be replaced with 'the';

Line 14, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'there is form';

Line 19, 'a' should be replaced with 'the'.

Page 3, line 14, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'in an arrow direction'.

Page 8, line 1 and occurrences thereafter, is the 'inlet unit' a nozzle, the term conventionally used for the inlet of a vacuum cleaner?

Line 5, would 'pipe' be more appropriately replaced with 'hose'?

Line 7, 'an' should be replaced with 'a'.

Page 10, line 16, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'it will be described centering on them';

Line 17, 'them' should be replaced with 'them.'

Page 12, line 17, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'it is prevented that'.

Page 13, line 5, 'provide' should be replaced with 'provided'.

Page 14, line 18, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'in a status'.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 1-11 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Exemplary of such:

Claim 1, line 8, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'in an extending and contracting direction'.

Claim 2, lines 11-12, it is unclear as to what is meant by 'a pair of rotational brushes rotatably coupled to the dust inlet port'. One of ordinary skill in the art would typically read this to mean a pair of rotary bristled agitators rotatable in a port HOWEVER from the specification and figures there are no typical brush structures but rather a pair of 'arms' that move up and down about a central body;

Line 11, it is unclear as to what is meant by an 'extension brush'. One of ordinary skill in the art would typically read this to mean something with bristles HOWEVER from the specification and figures there is nothing having bristles but rather an arm/suction nozzle that moves in and out of a body.

Claim 3, line 17, it is unclear as to whether the 'a dust inlet' is in addition to that of claim 1, line 4 or one in the same.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by JP2002-112930.

JP2002-112930 discloses an inlet body having a dust inlet port and removably coupled to an inlet pipe (figs. 7-8, #9).

JP2002-112930 discloses an auxiliary inlet body coupled extendably and contractibly to the inlet body having an auxiliary inlet port communicated with the dust inlet port (figs. 7-8, #2).

10. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by WO02/11595.

WO02/11595 discloses an inlet body having a dust inlet port and removably coupled to an inlet pipe (fig. 1a, #12c,14,23).

WO02/11595 discloses an auxiliary inlet body coupled extendably and contractibly to the inlet body having an auxiliary inlet port communicated with the dust inlet port (figs. 1a-1b, #12a,12b,10a,10b).

11. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by KO20-0181859.

KR20-0181859 discloses an inlet body having a dust inlet port and removably coupled to an inlet pipe (fig. 4, #10,5).

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KR20-0181859 discloses an auxiliary inlet body coupled extendably and contractibly to the inlet body having an auxiliary inlet port communicated with the dust inlet port (fig. 4, #11,13).

Allowable Subject Matter

12. Claims 2-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

13. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art discloses an inlet unit for a vacuum cleaner having an inlet body with a dust inlet port and an auxiliary inlet body coupled extendably and contractibly to the inlet body and having an auxiliary inlet port and a pair of rotational brushes rotatable coupled to the dust inlet port HOWEVER fails to disclose or fairly suggest the further inclusion of an extension brush that is extendable and contractible in a length direction of the rotational brush.

Conclusion

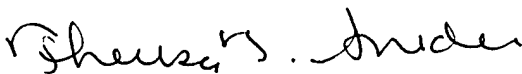
14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ragner et al., Scian et al., Murphy et al.('477,'882) and Virgili et al. disclose inlet units for a vacuum cleaner having rotatable wings. EP094468 and DE4413071 disclose inlet units for a vacuum cleaner that rotate.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Theresa T. Snider whose telephone number is (571) 272-1277. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (5:30am-2:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gladys Corcoran can be reached on (571) 272-1214. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Theresa T. Snider
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1744

3/20/2006